

Houghton Road Access Management

Ward IV CDRC presentation
September 26, 2007



Why are we doing this project?

- Development in the area along Houghton Road and southeast Tucson has accelerated and generated concerns about traffic congestion.
- Long range plans were needed to address these concerns.



History of long range planning for the Houghton Area

- Houghton Area Master Plan (HAMP)
 - ◆ Developed to address long-range planning for development within the Master Plan area (Houghton road south of Irvington).
 - ◆ Included transportation recommendations for roadway widening and access management.
- Houghton Corridor Study(HRCS) - ADOT
 - ◆ Looked specifically at transportation issues related to the increasing development in the Houghton Road area (Tanque Verde to Sahuarita Rd).
- Regional Transportation Authority (RTA)
 - ◆ Authorized funding to construct necessary transportation infrastructure.
 - ◆ Developed an approved plan of what that work would be.
 - ◆ Plan included roadway widening and access management.



Transportation Goals of all of these plans

The public indicated a need for:

- ◆ Improved cross-town mobility
- ◆ Reduced Congestion
- ◆ Improved Safety
- ◆ More alternate mode choices



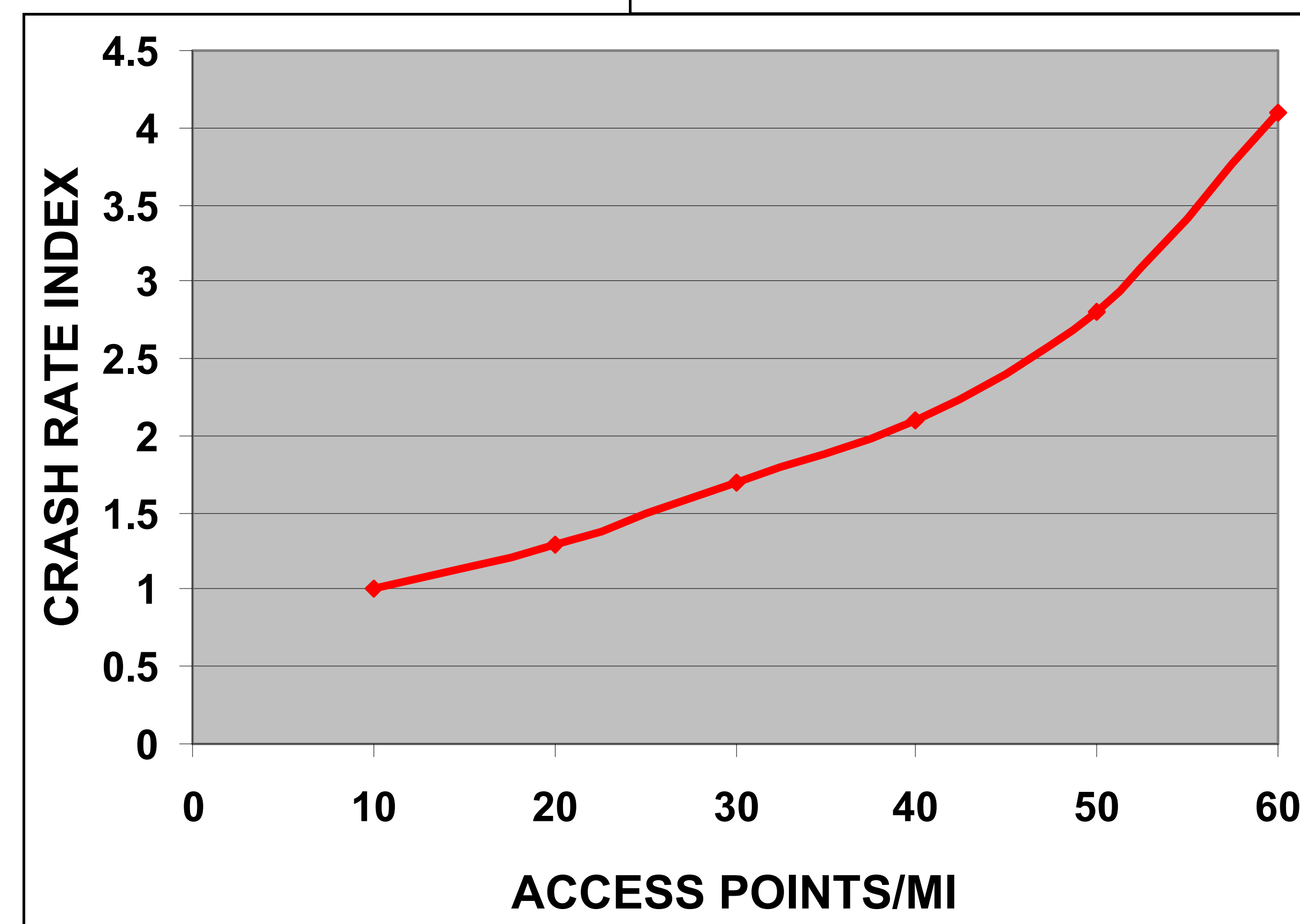
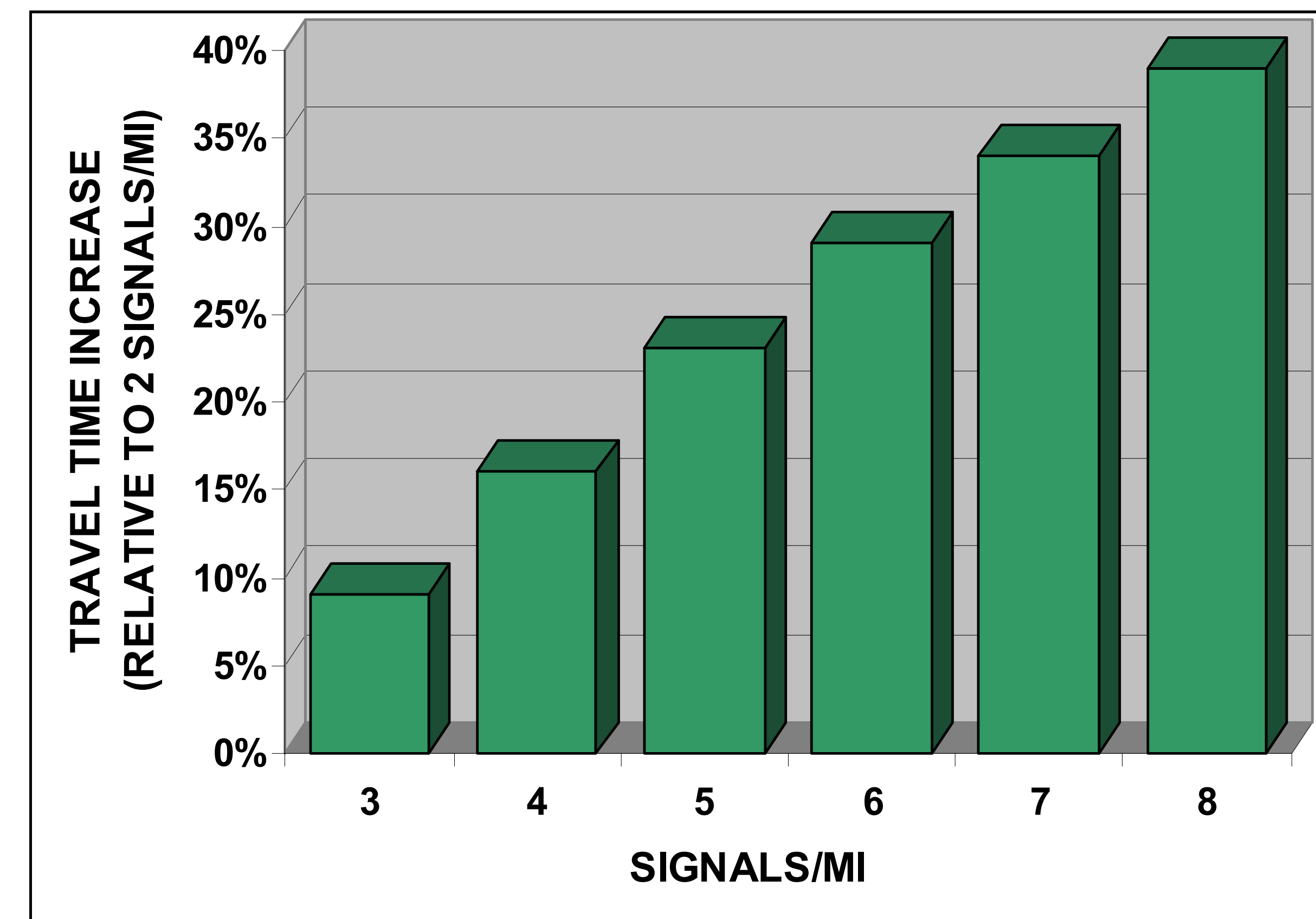
How do we meet these goals?

- Widen the roadway to allow additional vehicles to pass through the area
- Utilize access management, which is the process that:
 - ◆ Provides access to land development.
 - ◆ Preserves the flow of traffic on the surrounding road system in terms of safety, capacity, and speed.
 - ◆ Balances the need to provide good mobility for traffic moving through the area with the need for access to the developments in the area.



Access Management

- Is the direct physical connection of adjoining land to a roadway by way of a street or driveway, including median openings.
- Access management:
 - ◆ Preserves the mobility along the corridor.
 - ◆ Improves safety by reducing the number of vehicular conflict points.
 - ◆ Encourages organized growth along a corridor.
 - ◆ Extends the service life of the roadway (capacity).



Access Management

- Key Concept: traffic moving through the area and the traffic needing direct access to the properties in the area are in mutual conflict.
- Examples
 - ◆ Freeway- moves traffic through and area very well, but with few opportunities for access
 - ◆ Cul-de-sac- has unlimited opportunities for access, but doesn't move traffic very well
- Accidents and congestion are a result of street operations ineffectively attempting to serve both mobility and access at the same time
- Some agencies that have studied Access Management:
 - ◆ Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
 - ◆ American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)
 - ◆ Transportation Research Board (TRB)
 - ◆ Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE).
- These guidelines will be used the the City of Tucson to establish the best design for the Houghton Corridor.



Houghton Area Master Plan (HAMP) Access

- Signalized intersections no closer than 1 mile
- Median openings no closer than 1/4 mile
- No new direct driveway access onto Houghton Road
- New intersections no closer than 1/2 mile from other intersections
- Provide divided urban pathway long the east side of Houghton Road and along the north side of Valencia.



Houghton Corridor Study (HRCS) Access

- Signalized intersections no closer than 1 mile
- Median openings no closer than 1/2 mile
- Consolidate private access and redirect onto crossroads
- Provide neighborhood re-circulation to increase spacing of public roads to no closer than 1/4 mile.
- No new private driveway access



Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Access

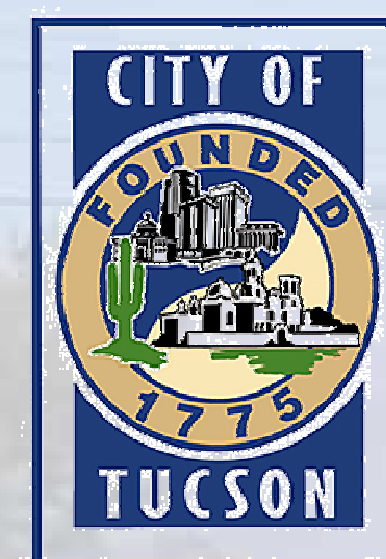
- Signalized intersections no closer than 1 mile
- Median openings no closer than 1/2 mile
- No direct driveway access onto Houghton Road





HOUGHTON ROAD 22ND ST to VALENCIA RD PRELIMINARY ACCESS MANAGEMENT PLAN

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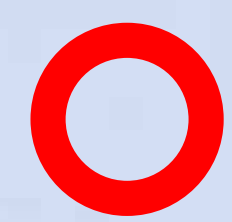


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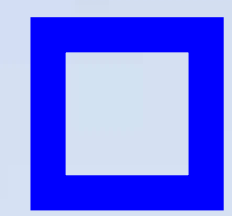


22nd ST - GOLF LINKS RD

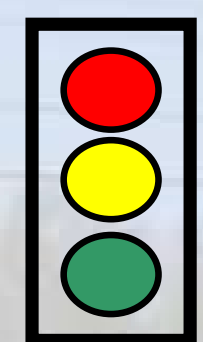
- Keep existing signals
- Median opening at 29th street



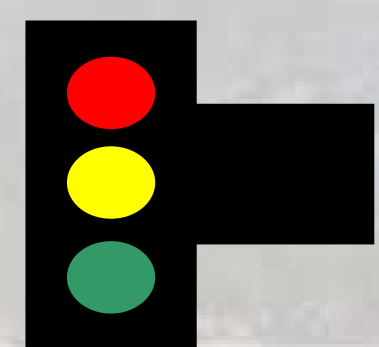
Directional median opening



Full access median opening



Traffic Signal



Florida T signal

